

Swami came to the United States of America in 1982. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees from India and a Ph.D. from Florida Tech. He joined the Florida Solar Energy Center in 1982 and has worked there ever since. Dr. Swami has over 40 years of experience in building research, especially in building energy conservation and sustainability—two topics intimately related to climate change.

Dr. Swami is a founding member of the Muthamizh Sangam of Central Florida (MSCF). Started in 1986, MSCF is a non-profit organization devoted to the awareness and promotion of Tamil culture in Central Florida with a vision to bring together all Tamil families who reside in the area. He served as the president of MSCF for over five years and chairman of the board for many years. Dr. Swami was also the president of the Hindu Society of Central Florida (HSCF) from 2012 to 2013. HSCF's focal point is the Hindu Temple in Casselberry and is the cultural, spiritual, and educational center for Central Florida Hindus. He has also served as APAPA's president and vice president for community outreach.

Dr. Swami is considered a pillar of the community for his wide range of community activities. His strength lies in providing leadership, growing the community, and bringing them together—which he has done with great success. He has been instrumental in setting up language schools to preserve the native language, providing leadership training to youth, recruiting and posting students for internships, and advising design teams to win national awards. One such is a first-place design award for the team and to him for faculty advising.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON ESTES

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2022

Mr. ESTES. Madam Speaker, I was not present for the following Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Roll Call vote No. 212, On Passage of the bill (S. 2938) To designate the United States Courthouse and Federal Building located at 111 North Adams Street in Tallahassee, Florida, as the "Joseph Woodrow Hatchett United States Courthouse and Federal Building", I would have voted NAY;

Roll Call vote No. 213, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass the bill, (H. Res. 1125) Condemning rising antisemitism, I would have voted YEA;

Roll Call vote No. 214, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass the bill, (H.R. 5738) Lactation Spaces for Veteran Moms Act, I would have voted YEA;

Roll Call vote No. 215, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass the bill (H.R. 7335) MST Claims Coordination Act, I would have voted YEA;

Roll Call vote No. 216, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass the bill (H.R. 6961) To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve hearings before the Board of Veterans' Appeals regarding claims involving military sexual trauma, I would have voted YEA; and on

Roll Call vote No. 217, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass the bill (H.R. 6064)

Direct the Sec. of VA to seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academies for a review of examinations, furnished by the Sec., to individuals who submit claims to the Sec. for compensation under chapter 11 of title 38, U.S.C., for mental & physical conditions to military sexual trauma, I would have voted YEA.

SRI LANKA—MAY 2022

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2022

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 13th anniversary of the end of the war in Sri Lanka in May of 2009. The Sri Lankan government won the war to keep the Sinhalese and Tamil communities within one country but has not yet won the peace. In 2015, the Sri Lankan government made commitments on transitional justice and accountability, a political settlement of the ethnic problem, security sector reform, the return of land, the release of Tamil political prisoners, actions to end human rights violations and other ambitious reforms. Unfortunately, not enough improvement has yet been seen by the Tamils, Christians and Muslims who feel marginalized and discriminated against. Instead, in February 2020, the Sri Lankan government withdrew their commitments to implement their goals to transitional justice and accountability made at the United Nations Human Rights Council in 2015.

The U.S. is a member of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) and has initiated resolutions on Sri Lanka since 2012. I'm urging the State Department to start work on a new UNHRC Resolution before Resolution 46/1 expires this September. I suggest this resolution includes:

An extension of the mandate of the OHCHR's special mechanism for evidence collection, especially vital because of the belated start of that mandate in April 2022.

The extension should explicitly determine that:

Evidence collection is not limited to the time period set by Sri Lanka's Lessons Learned and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC), which had a mandate of conflict prevention rather than accountability but include the entire war which began in 1983 and the period just preceding when gross human rights violations began, notably from 1979 with the introduction of the notorious Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA). Evidence from reputed NGOs should be accepted by the mechanism;

All crimes will be considered, including war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide, including what the 2015 report Office of the High Commissioner's Investigation on Sri Lanka (OISL) noted as 'widespread' and 'systematic' crimes by the State against the Tamil population;

A recommendation that the General Assembly act on the evidence collected to provide accountability for mass atrocity crimes by referral to a higher international court such as the International Court of Justice or the creation of a special tribunal for Sri Lanka; and

An operative clause on the immediate need of major constitutional reform under inter-

national supervision and guarantees to achieve a permanent political solution to the longstanding ethnic conflict to achieve regional stability and peace and prosperity for all communities on the island.

RECOGNIZING CAPROCK HIGH SCHOOL'S MCJROTC DRILL TEAMS

HON. RONNY JACKSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2022

Mr. JACKSON. Madam Speaker, today, I am proud to recognize the Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (MCJROTC) Drill Teams of Caprock High School in Amarillo, Texas for their exceptional representation at the 2022 Marine Corps JROTC National Drill Championship.

Over the past three years, Caprock twice placed second at Nationals. These young cadets remained committed to perfecting their skills under the leadership of some of our community's finest, and, this year, they brought home the National Championship trophy. These cadets have exemplified the Marine Corps values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment.

The National Drill Meet consisted of six team events, with Caprock placing first in two events, second in two events, and fifth in one event. Their efforts secured the program's first National Championship, but I have a feeling it will not be their last.

Since 1971, Caprock's ROTC program has been a part of the Amarillo community. The program has always motivated students to learn, fostered a disciplined and constructive learning environment, and instilled essential skills like time organization, responsibility, goal setting, and teamwork.

I am privileged to represent our National Champion cadets in Congress. They've made me, Caprock High School, and the Amarillo community proud. These students are a part of a tremendous program and have a bright future ahead. Congratulations to the cadets of Caprock High School—Semper Fi.

HONORING PHRA WIJITDHAMMAPANI AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Phra Wijitdhammapani was named Sunan Kruakaew. He was born on August 3, 1957, in Ranot District, Songkhla Province, and was the son of Mr. Pum Kruakaew and Mrs. Om Kruakaew.

At the age of reaching the educational criteria, he attended primary school at Wat Kaset Chonlathi School. After that, he turned his life around to find a temple to study and practice dhamma. On July 14, 1973, at the age of 16, he was ordained as a novice with Phra Kru Suwattanaprasat a preceptor.